

Commonwealth of Virginia
Department of Social Services



ONS TRANSMITTAL NUMBER 05-02

Date: February 8, 2005

Subject: Senate Document No. 22
Coverage of Interpreter and Translation Services for Fee-For-Service Medicaid Recipients Progress Report

To: ONS Resettlement Provider Directors

From: Kathy A. Cooper
Virginia State Refugee Coordinator
Virginia Office of Newcomer Services

Attached for your information is Senate Document No. 22, *Coverage of Interpreter and Translation Services for Fee-For-Service Medicaid Recipients Progress Report*, prepared by staff of the Department of Medical Assistance Services.

Senate Joint Resolution 122 (2004) directed DMAS to seek reimbursement from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services for translation and interpretation services provided to Medicaid eligible persons with limited English proficiency. Senate Document No 22 (2005) is DMAS's progress report to the Governor and the 2005 General Assembly it progress in meeting that directive. You will note in reading the report that:

- DMAS limited the project's scope to the "fee-for-service" Medicaid population and excluded those enrolled in managed care organizations.
- DMAS is implementing this project as a pilot in Northern Virginia. The pilot is to begin July 1, 2005. DMAS will evaluate the project and decide whether to expand the coverage statewide.
- Requests for interpretation and translation under this project can be made only of the Northern Virginia Area Health Education Center and its subcontracting organizations.

The Office of Newcomer Services is sending this document to you for your information. Please direct questions about either the report or the pilot project to Jeff Nelson, Policy Analyst with the Virginia Department of Medical Assistance Services' Division of Policy and Research, 804-371-8857 or jeff.nelson@dmass.virginia.gov